

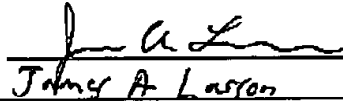
**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 3673**

S/N 09/884,795

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant:	SCHERER ET AL.	Examiner:	J. LEE
Serial No.:	09/884,795	Group Art Unit:	3673
Filed:	JUNE 19, 2001	Docket No.:	3616.177USI2
Title:	BLOCK SPLITTING ASSEMBLY AND METHOD		

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d):**I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on 9/22/03, 2003.  
James A. Larson**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 30, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 4 of this paper